Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Robert (Bob) Lee Barness was born December 3, 1940, in Mankato, Minnesota, and moved to South Dakota as a small child; and,

Whereas, Bob grew up on a farm in the Tulare/Hitchcock area and graduated from Tulare High School in 1959; and,

Whereas, Bob married his high school sweetheart, Illa Buckendahl, in 1960 and had two boys, Steve and Brian; and,

Whereas, In 1971, Bob moved to Rapid City with his family and served the community as a reserve police officer from 1978 to 1982; and,

Whereas, In 1982, Bob started his career with the Rapid City Area School District at Stevens High School, serving for many years as the only security officer—as the security staff increased, he took on the role of supervisor; and,

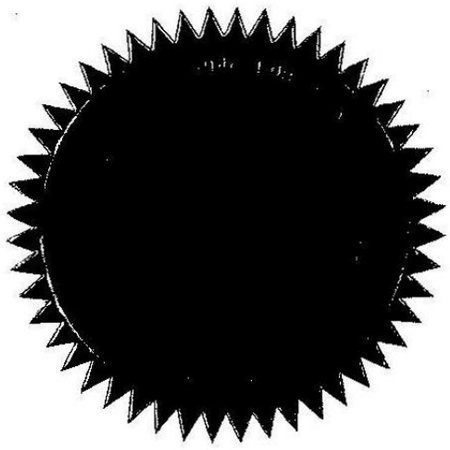
Whereas, On September 11, 1991, Bob selflessly endangered his own life to protect Stevens High School students and staff when a distraught student took over a classroom at gunpoint; and,

Whereas, After 21 years of dedicated service to Stevens High School and the Rapid City Area School District, a retirement dinner will take place to honor Bob on May 21, and he will retire on May 29, 2003:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 21, 2003, as

Bob Barness Day

in South Dakota, and I join Bob's family, friends and co-workers in wishing him a fulfilling and happy retirement.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Thirteenth Day of May in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

M. Michael Rounds

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State